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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Athena Christodoulou, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 09/940,615) Statement
Filed: August 29, 2001) Group: 2624
For: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR...") Examiner: King Poon
) Our Ref: B-5060 948588-3
) Date: May 8, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) (2) (ii).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

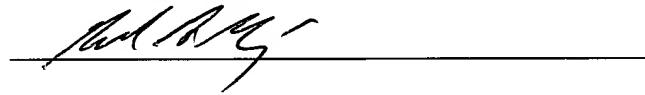
The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted after a submission of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance . Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

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The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on May 8, 2006 by Guillermo Gonzalez.



Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Page 1 of 1	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-5060 948588-3	U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/940,615
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANTS Christodoulou, et al.	
	FILING DATE August 29, 2001	GROUP 2624

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,130,757	10/2000	Yoshida, et al.	358	1.15	
	2003/010377	6/2003	Nakamura, et al.	399	82	
	6,687,018	2/2004	Leong, et al.	358	1.15	
	2002/0131059	9/2002	Tsutichoi	358	1.1	
	2002/0198843	12/2002	Wang, et al.	705	51	
	2002/0105668	8/2002	Lilland, et al.	358	1.14	
	5,327,526	7/1994	Nomura, et al.	358	1.16	
	2003/0161641	8/2003	Edmonds	399	23	
	2003/0046408	3/2003	Weaver, et al.	709	229	
	2003/0202204	10/2003	Terrill, et al.	358	1.15	
	2003/0133146	7/2003	Parry	358	1.15	
	2003/0090705	5/2003	Ferlitsch	358	1.15	
	2003/0071726	4/2003	Hopper, et al.	340	540	
	2003/0020944	1/2003	Bhogal, et al.	358	1.15	
	6,650,433	11/2003	Keane, et al.	358	1.15	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.